

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) An electrical connector, comprising:
 - a housing including an inner bore and an open end providing access to said inner bore, said inner bore having an inner surface and a bore retaining groove disposed in said inner surface;
 - a piston-contact element slidably received in said inner bore of said housing though said open end, said piston-contact element being axially movable between retracted and advanced positions and having an outer surface with an element retaining groove disposed in said outer surface; and
 - a resilient member received in each of said retaining grooves releasably retaining said piston-contact element in one of said retracted and advanced positions within said inner bore of said housing.
2. (currently amended) An electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein
 - said piston-contact element is in said retracted position when said resilient member is received in said ~~first and second~~ element retaining grooves; and
 - said piston-contact element is in said advanced position when said resilient member is received in said bore retaining groove and spaced from said element retaining groove.
3. (original) An electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein
 - said piston-contact element includes opposing first and second ends;
 - said first end is adapted to engage another electrical connector; and
 - said second end includes a stop substantially preventing removal of contact member from said inner bore of said housing.

4. (original) An electrical connector according to claim 3, wherein
said stop comprises an annular shoulder abutting said resilient member in the
other of said retracted and advanced positions.
5. (original) An electrical connector according to claim 3, wherein
said first end of said piston-contact element includes probe fingers; and
said second end is a piston.
6. (original) An electrical connector according to claim 5, wherein
said probe fingers and said piston-contact element together form a unitary, one-
piece member.
7. (original) An electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein
said retaining grooves are each substantially annular and continuous.
8. (currently amended) An electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein
said bore retaining groove includes first and second side walls and an end wall
extending therebetween; and
an angled wall extends from said second side wall facilitating engagement of said
resilient member in said ~~first~~ bore retaining groove.
9. (currently amended) An electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein
said element retaining groove includes first and second side walls and an end wall
extending therebetween, said second side wall being angled with respect to
said first side wall facilitating disengagement of said resilient member from
said ~~second~~ element retaining groove.
10. (original) An electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein
said resilient member is a substantially ring shaped spring.

11. (original) An electrical connector according to claim 10, wherein
said resilient member includes a slot allowing expansion and compression of said
resilient member.
12. (original) An electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein
an electrical contact of another electrical connector is received in said inner bore
of said housing through said open end engaging said piston-contact element.
13. (original) An electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein
said housing includes an inner conductive sleeve; and
said bore retaining groove is disposed in said conductive sleeve.
14. (original) An electrical connector according to claim 1, wherein
said electrical connector is a high-voltage bushing insert.
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21. (newly added) An electrical connector according to claim 2, wherein
said resilient member is received in both said element and bore retaining grooves
when said piston-contact element is in said retracted position.
22. (newly added) A high-voltage bushing insert for mating with a cable connector,
comprising:
 - a housing including an inner bore and an open end providing access to said inner
bore, said inner bore having an inner surface and a bore retaining groove
disposed in said inner surface;
 - a piston-contact element slidably received in said inner bore of said housing
though said open end and having an outer surface with an element retaining
groove disposed in said outer surface; and
 - a resilient member received in each of said retaining grooves releasably retaining
said piston-contact element in one of a retracted and advanced positions within

said inner bore of said housing, said piston-contact element being in said retracted position during normal operation and being moved to said advanced position by gases generated during fault conditions.

23. (newly added) A high-voltage bushing insert according to claim 22, wherein
said piston-contact element is in said retracted position when said resilient member is received in said element retaining groove; and
said piston-contact element is in said advanced position when said resilient member is received in said bore retaining groove and spaced from said element retaining groove.
24. (newly added) A high-voltage bushing insert according to claim 23, wherein
said resilient member is received in both said element and bore retaining grooves
when said piston-contact element is in said retracted position.
25. (newly added) A high-voltage bushing insert according to claim 23, wherein
an annular shoulder extending outwardly from said outer surface of said piston-contact element engages said resilient member in said advanced position to substantially prevent removal of said piston-contact element from said inner bore of said housing.
26. (newly added) A high-voltage bushing insert according to claim 22, wherein
a snuffer tube disposed within said piston-contact element generates said gases during fault conditions.